

Guide for Growth Group Hosts

How To Earn Respect From The People Who Matter (Better Days Series)

THINK ABOUT IT

We hope that you had a great Growth Group session last week. Based on what was discussed previously, what changes have you made in your life?

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- (Read the Verse Below) What does this verse mean to you? Why is it so important to have a good name?

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold. Proverbs 22:1 (NIV)

- (Read the Verse Below) A good reputation is built on character not image. How do you think other people would describe your character? How do you think God would describe your character?

...The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

- (Read the Verses Below) It's important that we act and speak with integrity to earn the respect of others. What's the problem with trying to use shortcuts in life (or using crooked paths to advance in life)? What happens to those people?

The mouth of the godly person gives wise advice, but the tongue that deceives will be cut off. The lips of the godly speak helpful words, but the mouth of the wicked speaks perverse words. Proverbs 10:31-32 NLT

People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will be exposed. Proverbs 10:9 NLT

- When serving others, we should have the right attitude and focus (people are always watching our actions and reactions). What type of attitude do you have when serving others (church, work, home, etc.)?
- (Read the Verses on the Next Page) Another way that we earn respect from others is when they see our generosity. What are some of the benefits of generosity? Has there

ever been a time when it was difficult for you to be generous to someone because you were focused on what that person did or said to you previously?

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)

How joyful are those who fear the Lord and delight in obeying his commands. Their children will be successful everywhere; an entire generation of godly people will be blessed. They themselves will be wealthy, and their good deeds will last forever. Light shines in the darkness for the godly. They are generous, compassionate, and righteous. Good comes to those who lend money generously and conduct their business fairly. Such people will not be overcome by evil. Those who are righteous will be long remembered. They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the Lord to care for them. They are confident and fearless and can face their foes triumphantly. They share freely and give generously to those in need. Their good deeds will be remembered forever. They will have influence and honor. Psalms 112:1-9 NLT

- (Read the Verse Below) You will succeed in life by having humility. Sometimes there are people in your life who place a great emphasis on being competitive in every aspect of life. Have you ever experienced a need to boast about yourself as a means of competing with others?

Pride ends in humiliation, while humility brings honor. Proverbs 29:23 NLT

- (Read the Verse Below) The verse below talks about fearing the Lord (having reverence or respect). What are the benefits of honoring God in this way?

Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised. Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise. Proverbs 31:30-31 NLT

LIFE APPLICATION

Think about how you have earned respect from others at home and at work. Have each person in the group share a scenario that illustrates how they were able to earn the respect of others in those two settings.



DIVE DEEPER

Go deeper during the week!

- A great way to dive deeper and learn more about Jesus is by reading **God's Word** daily. Commit to reading for at least 5 minutes per day to start. Here is a bible reading guide to help you take your next steps in that area: <https://experienceheritage.org/next-steps/read-the-bible>
- Read the **daily devotionals** each day found at www.experienceheritage.org/blog. You can sign up to have them delivered daily to your email inbox by clicking here: <http://experienceheritage.org/Devotionals>.
- **Watch the messages** online at www.experienceheritage.org/messages.

PRAYER GUIDANCE

During the prayer time, have everyone pray for each other in groups of 2 or more related to today's Growth Group content. After praying for a few minutes, the group leader will say a short prayer for the entire group.